



MACIE MEETING
March 11, 2020
Helena, Montana

Members Present

Travis Anderson (alternate)	Montana University System
Dawn Bishop-Moore	Indian Impact Schools of Montana
Mary Jo Bremner	Board of Public Education
Marcy Cobell	Urban – Great Falls
Jordann Forster	Montana Federation of Public Employees
Melissa Hammett	Urban – Missoula
Iris Killeagle	Little Shell Tribe
Jeremy MacDonald	School Administrators of Montana
Voyd St. Pierre	Chippewa Cree Tribe
Jennifer Smith	Urban – Billings
Viola Wood (part of morning)	Tribal Head Start

Lona Running Wolf	Jennifer Stadum
Jule Walker	Don Wetzel

Members Absent

Joe Arrowtop	Montana Indian Education Association
Yancey Beston	Montana Indian School Boards Caucus
Norma Bixby	Northern Cheyenne Tribe
Jason Cummins	Class 7
Harold Dusty Bull	Blackfeet Tribe
Richard Littlebear	Tribal Colleges
Angela Mclean	Montana University System
Kaci Walette	Fort Peck Tribes

Guests

Marco Ferro (afternoon)	Montana Federation of Public Employees
Jacquie Mong	Access Montessori

Office of Public Instruction

Colet Bartow	Joan Franke
Mike Jetty	Julie Murgel

The Montana Advisory Council on Indian Education (MACIE) meeting was called to order by Chairperson Jennifer Smith at 10:07 a.m. Introductions were done.

Review of Minutes

A change to the minutes for November 11, 2019, needs to be made on page three regarding new legislation and schools participating. This is the cultural integrity commitment act.

Jordann Forster motioned to approve the minutes as amended and Marcy Cobell seconded the motion. Passed by all.

Ex-officio reports

◇ Superintendent office [handout](#)

Jule Walker indicated the ESSA report cards are currently embargoed but they will be released March 16.

The Montana teacher of the year Linda Rost is in the top four for the United States Teacher of the Year. That person will be announced at the end of March. Nominations for next year are due May 15 with the nomination packet due on June 22.

The 2020 Census is vital for communities to receive education funding. Dylan Klapmeier will be the representative for the Office of Public Instruction (OPI) to get the word out to communities for responding to the census.

The Systems of Care Tribal Wraparound Project had an open house at its new office at Montana State University Billings (MSU Billings) on February 28.

The Indian Education for All Best Practices will be May 3-5 at MSU Billings. There will be a youth conference tie in with this.

The Superintendent has completed school tours in southeastern and northeastern Montana and has met with tribal leaders and communities in those areas, including Poplar and Wolf Point. She has also toured around the Flathead area.

The new Indian Student Achievement Unit Director, Lona Running Wolf, and the new Tribal, Family, Community Liaison, Don Wetzal, were introduced. Each gave a brief biography.

◇ Board of Public Education

Mary Jo Bremner indicated the Board of Public Education (BPE) meeting will be tomorrow.

When attend MACIE meetings always leave with positive hope for students and schools.

◇ Bureau of Indian Education - No report

◇ Tribal Head Start - No report

◇ Montana University System

Travis Anderson indicated the Office of the Commissioner of Higher Education (OCHE) is working on college access for better support with college application week, FAFSA nights, financial literacy, and college signing days activities.

The GEAR UP program is for early awareness for undergraduate programs such as campus visits, credit recovery, dual enrollment, ACT testing, and first-year college support. For this seven-year grant there are 5,500 students in 19 schools, 14 of which are on or near reservations. Approximately 68% percent of the students are American Indian. GEAR UP is \$24.5 million grant with a seven-year cycle. One qualifier for a school is to have 50% or more free or reduced lunch.

There does need to be a dedicated GEAR UP staff person in the district which OCHE does reimburse for that person.

Don Wetzel indicated there needs to be more information put out about ACT prep and testing as the schools not taking seriously and having travel during the same time.

Jordann Forster suggested Travis go to conferences. He will get together with Jennifer Stadum to do a presentation at Indian Education for All (IEFA) Best Practices Conference.

Content Standards and Instruction [handout](#)

Colet Bartow provided information regarding revisions of standards – what all students should know in a particular curricular area – and the responsibilities of the BPE and OPI. The draft standards and surveys for the standards – social studies; career and technical education; and computer science (completely new), library media, and technology integration are on the [OPI Web site](#) - scroll to the Standards Revision information section. Recommendations need to be made by the middle of April for submission to the BPE at the May meeting.

Jennifer Stadum said this is the first time teachers have seen there needs to be a focus on IEFA. Jennifer Smith stated MACIE needs to advocate for IEFA because it comes up on the chopping block each legislature. Jeremy MacDonald asked about teacher evaluations for IEFA. There is no requirement on this and it is a district by district case. Marcy Cobell believes there needs to be tribal consultation with how school districts spend their IEFA funding.

The Education Legislative Interim Committee meets in June. The economic impact statement on the new standards will be presented. There needs to be comments from all types of schools for this. There will be time for public comment.

TEAMS Report [handout](#)

Jennifer Stadum and Mike Jetty presented the TEAMS report regarding district and school responses for IEFA implementation.

Jennifer Smith said there was no PIR provided by school/district personnel. Joan Franke indicated that would be under In-school PIR provided by other than OPI IEFA staff. Jennifer asked that it be more explicit as she is not sure those filling out the report know this.

Jeremy MacDonald said he would like districts to have access to plans from other districts so can see exemplary examples.

It was suggested the exemplary lesson question be at the school level as district staff do not necessarily know that information. It was also suggested IEFA be included in the Continuous School Improvement Plan (CSIP).

Jordann Forster suggested a resolution that MACIE supports an IEFA course for all teacher education classes at the university level. She will do a draft to be sent out for suggestions and will have a discussion at the next meeting.

Indian Education for All

Jennifer Stadum provided information regarding the new science standards and the assessment on this. There is a HUB course regarding this. The assessment is done by a consortium of states. There needs to be voices at the table regarding this so relevant cultural context may be added.

The unit is updating its documents regarding federal recognition of the Little Shell.

The IEFA Best Practices Conference will be May 3-5 in Billings. The cultural continuum will be at Montana Audubon. The Advocacy Award winners are Jacie Jeffers from Billings, Bill Stockton from Arlee, and Amy Williams from Polson.

District Finance Report – Kara Flath and Dan Moody [handout](#)

Kara Flath and Dan Moody from OPI Finance Division gave a presentation on district finance reports and monitoring. OPI is obligated to monitor federal pass through for those receiving \$750,000 or more. Responses for audit findings have requirements that need to be met and written in specific ways. OPI will be expanding what audit.

High risk districts receive federal funding through reimbursement to help districts straighten out what is wrong.

Every superintendent should know about financials.

Language Preservation in Schools [handout](#)

It is the 25-year anniversary of Class 7 certification. There was a situation where had a non-Indian principal in a school predominately Native tried to get a school policy passed for students not to speak the Native language, which the non-Native superintendent supported.

Iris Killeagle motioned to table this resolution until May when Jason Smith may attend. Marcy Cobell seconded the motion. Passed by all.

Graduation vs Completion Rate
[handout](#)

Julie Murgel presented information on graduation and completion rates, dropout rates, and SBAC and ACT test scores. Graduation rates are those students who graduate in four years with their cohort. Completion rates include those that graduation in 5+ years along with those who complete programs such as HiSET.

For the chart on page four, number 3, yellow is Hellgate Elementary and green in Hawthorne in Missoula. ACT composite is the overall score. For NAIA schools, student need 18 for entry.

Administration, teaching staff, families, and communities need to have high expectations for students.

Lona Running Wolf suggested MACIE needs to begin to recognize school districts along with principals and superintendents for the work they are doing for student achievement to focus on successes that are taking place.

Jennifer Smith asked any MACIE members had something for her to present at the BPE meeting. Jordann Forster mentioned indicating that completion rate is just as important as graduation rate.

Public Comment

Jacquie Maughan from Access Montessori came to talk about a convening on March 20 to discuss with agencies and organizations access to early learning. The mission of Access Montessori is to bring Montessori early learning to communities that lack access.

There will also be a gathering this summer at the University of Montana Missoula on human nature and traditional Indigenous wisdom.

Jacquie's email is jacquie@accessmontessori.org if anyone has input for her.

The next meeting is May 6 to be right before the BPE meeting.

Jordann Forster motioned to adjourn the meeting and Jeremy MacDonald seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 4:10 p.m.

____signed by Dawn Bishop-Moore_____

Approved May 6, 2020